

## **BOARD REGULATION NUMBER 13--SUPERVISION AND DELEGATION OF DUTIES TO DENTAL AUXILIARY PERSONNEL**

*Purpose: Pursuant to the provisions of Miss. Code Ann. §§ 73-9-3(i), 73-9-5(2), and 73-9-13, to define the type of supervision required for dental auxiliaries and to further determine procedures which require the professional judgement and skill of a dentist and which, as such, may not be delegated to auxiliary personnel.*

### **Supervision of Dental Auxiliaries**

Miss. Code Ann. §§ 73-9-3(i) and 73-9-5(2) address areas of supervision of dental auxiliaries, and the following definitions apply to the supervision of dental auxiliaries:

1. **Direct Supervision:** Miss. Code Ann. §§ 73-9-3(i) and 73-9-5(2) state that the work of dental auxiliaries shall at all times be under the direct supervision of a licensed Mississippi dentist. This level of supervision requires that a dentist be physically present in the dental office or treatment facility, personally diagnose the condition to be treated, authorize the procedures to be performed, remain in the dental office or treatment facility while the procedures are being performed by the auxiliary, and evaluate the performance of the dental auxiliary.
2. **General Supervision:** Miss. Code Ann. § 73-9-5(2) provides for a limited scope of practice for dental hygienists employed by the Mississippi State Board of Health or public school boards or who may be making public demonstrations for educational purposes, all while under the general supervision of a licensed Mississippi dentist. For this level of supervision and for the limits imposed by Miss. Code Ann. § 73-9-5(2), a dentist is not required to be in the dental office or treatment facility when procedures are being performed, and the dentist may or may not have personally diagnosed the condition to be treated, may or may not have personally authorized the procedures, and may or may not evaluate the performance of the dental hygienist.

### **Delegation of Duties to Dental Auxiliaries**

The Board has determined that the following procedures may not be delegated to dental auxiliary personnel.

1. Periodontal screening and probing, or subgingival exploration for hard and soft deposits and sulcular irrigations to dental assistants and/or dental hygienists not licensed by the State of Mississippi; may be performed by licensed Mississippi dental hygienists.
2. The use of ultrasonic and/or sonic instruments to dental assistants and/or dental hygienists not licensed by the State of Mississippi; may be performed by licensed Mississippi dental hygienists.
3. Pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 73-9-3, the removal of calcareous deposits with an instrument by anyone other than a licensed Mississippi dental hygienist.

4. The taking of any impression of the human mouth or oral structure that will be used in the restoration, repair, or replacement of any natural or artificial teeth or for the fabrication or repair of any dental appliance. The Board has further determined that impressions for study models and opposing models, and the construction, adjustment, and cementation of temporary crowns (temporary means crowns placed while permanent restoration is being fabricated) do not require the professional judgment and skill of a dentist and may be delegated to competent dental auxiliary personnel in accordance with § 73-9-3.
5. The placement or cementation of inlays, permanent crowns, fixed bridges, removable bridges, partial dentures, or full dentures.
6. The equilibration or adjustment of occlusion on natural or artificial dentition, restoration, or sealants.
7. The activation or adjustment of orthodontic appliances.
8. Injections of drugs, medication, or anesthetics by those not authorized by Mississippi law to administer such agents.
9. Performing pulp capping, pulpotomy and other endodontic therapy.
10. Intraoral restorative procedures.
11. Placement of any subgingival medicated cords. However, the placement of periodontal treatment agents may be performed by licensed Mississippi dental hygienists.

*Regulation Thirteen adopted by the Mississippi State Board of Dental Examiners on September 9, 1976; amended December 17, 1976; amended April 27, 1977; amended September 4, 1988; amended September 25, 1992; amended June 1, 1993; amended July 30, 1993; amended March 8, 1996; amended September 18, 1998; amended October 22, 1999; amended November 3, 2000; amended September 13, 2002; amended November 3, 2006.*